



THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

December 24, 2010

GOD'S LOVE IN ACTION

Journey in Faith

Worship with Joy

Serve with Love

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Amherst

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The Christmas Liturgy

THE CHRISTMAS ANNOUNCEMENT

John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

HYMN: *Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful*

1. Oh, come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant!
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him
Born the king of angels;

Refrain:

Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

2. Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
In the highest:

Refrain

Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing:

Refrain

Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of the child born for us, and the joy of the son given to us be with you all.
And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *Joy to the World*

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,

And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2. Joy to the earth, the Savior Reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills,
and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy.

**3. He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love, wonders of His love,
And wonders, and wonders of His love.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY:

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Let us pray. Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Christmas Lullaby"

John Rutter

THE FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 9:2-7

HYMN: *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

**1. Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming,
from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As men of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half spent was the night.**

**2. Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The Rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it,
The Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright.
She bore to us a savior,
When half spent was the night.**

PSALM 96

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord all the whole earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his name; proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; he is more to be feared than all gods.
As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

Oh the majesty and magnificence of his presence! Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary.

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord honor and praise.

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him.

Tell it out among the nations: The Lord is king! He has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity.

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with his truth.

ANTHEM: "Good King Wenceslas"

Arr. Reginald Jacques

Brandon Dallmann (page), Jack Stebbins (king), Jack de Bruyn Kops (peasant)

THE SECOND LESSON: Titus 2:11-14

CHILDREN'S TIME

HYMN: *Good Christian Friends. Rejoice*

**1. Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow,
And he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!**

**2. Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
And we are blest forever more.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!**

**3. Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
To gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!**

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 1: 1-14

THE HOMILY

HYMN: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

1. While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light.

Refrain: Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

2. The shepherds feared and trembled
When, lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth.

Refrain: Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

3. Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain: Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

THE PEACE:

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. (*Please tip your candle to receive the light from your neighbor.*)

THE PRAYERS (*after each petition, you may respond with the words: "Hear us, we pray."*)

HYMN: *Silent Night*

1. Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child,
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

2. [Duet-Elora Simkins & Katie Griffin]
Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born!

3. Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

(*Please extinguish your candle while holding your hand in front of it*)

THE OFFERING:

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Heard about a Newborn King!"

David Lantz III

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER:

Let us pray.

Eternal God,

With Mary we treasure the gift of your Son, and in our hearts we ponder the mystery of his birth. Receive these offerings, that our lives may declare the wonders of your love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

THE PREFACE:

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Angels We Have Heard on High

1. Angels we have heard on high,

Sweetly singing o'er the plains,

And the mountains in reply,

Echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo;

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?

Why your joyous strains prolong?

What the gladsome tidings be

Which inspire your heav'nly song?

Gloria in excelsis Deo;

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

3. Come to Bethlehem and see

Him whose birth the angels sing;

Come, adore on bended knee

Christ the Lord, the newborn king.

Gloria in excelsis Deo;

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving Passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again, we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, not as we ought, but as we are able; and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving, and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine; that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son may be filled with heavenly peace and joy, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all your saints. All honor and glory are yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, now and forever.

Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

**Our Father, who art in Heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
And the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

THE COMMUNION:

*(Communion is by station and by intinction:
You may take the wafer and dip it in the wine.)*

CHOIR ANTHEMS:

"There is No Rose of Such Virtue "
"Mary Had a Baby"

John Joubert
Spiritual

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: *The First Noël*

**1. The first Noël the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
(Refrain:) Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël,
born is the King of Israel.**

**2. They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.
(Refrain:) Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël,
born is the King of Israel**

**3. And by the light of that same star
three Wise Men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.
(Refrain)**

**4. This star drew nigh to the northwest,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay.
(Refrain)**

**5. Then entered in those Wise Men three,
full reverently upon the knee,
and offered there, in his presence,
gold and myrrh and frankincense.
(Refrain)**

THE POST-COMMUNION:

The Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in His grace.

For from His hand we have received grace upon grace. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Let us pray:

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

THE BENEDICTION:

May Christ, who by his incarnation has filled us with grace and truth, give you peace this Christmas. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

THE DISMISSAL:

Glory to God in the highest!

Peace to God's people on earth!

As heralds of God's peace, go forth in joy to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

1. Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations rise;
Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn king!

3. Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace!
Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth,
Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

THE POSTLUDE: Finale in D

Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens

***AFTER THE SERVICE, YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO A RECEPTION IN THE PARISH HALL***

To all those who have helped to make this worship experience possible:

Pastor:
Organist:
Choir Director:
Assisting Minister:
Readers:
Special Music:

Rev. Randall K. Wilburn
Matthew Cron
Anne Weaver
Alan Dallmann

Drake Niedzielski, Julie Brigham-Grette
Torsten Nelson, Horace Moody, Jack Stebbins,

Brandon Dallmann, Donna Griffin, Kathryn Carlson
Jerry & Bea Clark
Cheryl Smith

Ushers:
Greeter:

Trumpets: Roger Grette, Eric Grette

Readers during sermon (in order): Tom Niedzielski, Richard Bachold,
Jack Stebbins

Acolytes:
Altar Guild:
Cover Art:
Lighting:

Catherine Larson, Edward Larson
Christa Keefe
Julie de Bruyn Kops
Torsten Nelson

Donors of Altar Flowers

<i>In memory of Joyce Archer and Stephanie Sienkiewicz</i>	Ron Archer & Family
<i>In memory of Benson A. Bowditch</i>	Elaine P. Bowditch
<i>In memory of our children</i>	Cathy and Tony Butterfield
<i>In memory of John J. Czajkowski, Sr.</i>	Mary & David Carlson
<i>In memory of Loved Ones</i>	Jerry and Bea Clark
<i>In honor of Parents and Loved Ones</i>	Rev. & Mrs. Karl Donfried
<i>In memory of Betty & Jesse Brigham and Einar Grette</i>	Roger & Julie Grette
<i>In memory of the Handrich Family</i>	Priscilla Handrich
<i>In memory of Burnett M. Helgoe, Barbara Ruth Carlson LaBarr</i>	Cathy Helgoe
<i>In memory of Cliff Patrickson</i>	Christa Keefe & Family
<i>In memory of Loved Ones</i>	Cheryl Smith & Bernie Morzuch
<i>In memory of Our Parents, Homer and Sylvina Cadman, Fred and Martha Seelig</i>	Harry & Sharon Seelig
<i>In honor of all my Grandchildren</i>	Wilma Trueswell
<i>In memory of Our Parents</i>	Tom & Sandy Zoeller
<i>In memory of C. Lockard Conley, Katherine Weaver Huff</i>	Bob & Anne Weaver
—	Randall Bausor & Helen Drake